

HOT WEATHER FINERY READY WHEN SUMMER GIVES WORD

What If We Did Shiver Through Last Season? Preparedness Is the Word and There's the Lure of the New Sports Clothes

By ELEANOR HOYT BRAINERD.
RESISTANTLY women will be wearing thin summer frocks during the summer months, though the springtime has not been calculated to waken yearning for muslin and linens and other hot weather finery.



A frock of cream batiste and one of striped voile with organdy.

Women are planning to wear them for hosts of occasions not definitely sporting. They are tremendously becoming, if well chosen, and exceedingly comfortable. A woman may indulge a taste for the strapping in this sort of attire, though she would hesitate to wear anything as alluring in the ordinary conventional dress. Most of the sports clothes, even though impractical for real sports purposes, are far more easily kept fresh and in order than are the cotton and linen summer frocks that must be immaculate in order to be charming.

There are plenty of reasons for the popularity of the sports clothes of this season, and it seems probable that the average modish girl as well as the average modish woman of less than

or George. The lower part of the skirt and possibly folds or bands above this lower section are of the linen. The full skirt top, bodice and sleeves are largely of the sheer material with trimming of linen. Sometimes there is a little bolero or overbodice of the linen, sometimes only a collar and cuffs.

Some attractive frocks entirely of the heavier linens are shown, and the best of them are youthful looking models, with a suggestion of sports clothes about them and less youthful frocks made with simple skirts and with waists opening in front to show an attractive chemise and collar of sheer cotton. The sleeves may be of the cotton, but are not necessarily so.

The shops display quantities of pretty chemisettes and underblouses both with and without sleeves and by their aid a very simple frock of linen or any plain material may be made to have a festive and dainty look. The plain chemisettes of organdy with modish cape or rolling collars are good, both in white and in delicate colors, such as flesh. Some of them have cuffs to match, and when their shapes are good these plain sheer models are often more effective than more elaborate models. Fine, white batiste or muslin, hand worked and inset with narrow lace, or possibly trimmed in narrow hems of color, makes a dainty chemisette, and there are many exquisite models delicately hand embroidered.

Colors and collar and cuff sets in the new shapes are legion and, carefully chosen, will give an air of smartness to the simplest of linen or heavy cotton frocks.

Cotton gabardine, cotton homespun, cotton covert, various corded cottons of linen weight and some new heavy cotton twills are made up as substitutes for linen, though they fail to achieve its success. Gay striped designs in these heavy cottons and quaint printed designs of the toile de Jouy type are bought for skirts and in the separate skirt departments these models are considerably in evidence, though cotton corduroy in white and colors and other heavy corded cottons are most in demand.

For the simplest of thin cotton frocks all of the old favorites are used—lawns, dimities, ginghams, voiles and the rest, and some of these efforts fit in more easily with the bouffant and flaring modes of the moment than they did with soft and clinging lines. A degree of crispness is desirable, provided the material is sheer and fine as well as crisp, and there are some delightful little models in lawn and in dimity that are picturesquely chic.

Ginghams have grown in grace from season to season until both in plain colors and in checks and plaids they are often lovely, but the scarcity of dyes has affected this material and there are fewer attractive novelties than usual.

Fine handkerchief linens are scarce, too, though one sees many delectable frocks of this material in plain light colors and in fine stripes. Especially in clear and lovely light pinks strong enough to stand rubbing well yet soft and becoming the simply made frock of handkerchief linen with dainty collar and cuffs of white is the ideal thing for a summer morning, but unfortunately such simplicity comes rather high.

There are some very effective light yellows in handkerchief linen and the imported models are often in either canary yellow or the softer and less trying maize yellow, with relieving touches of white. And there is a particularly sprightly and lovely green in this fine linen that whatever its tub-like and chiffon, silk and George. The lower part of the skirt and possibly folds or bands above this lower section are of the linen. The full skirt top, bodice and sleeves are largely of the sheer material with trimming of linen. Sometimes there is a little bolero or overbodice of the linen, sometimes only a collar and cuffs.



A frock of Georgette crepe and lace and one of handkerchief linen and embroidery.

though not every woman could wear it. Lanvin has sent over many fetching models in the fine stuffs. So has Paquin. So have all the French houses; but most of these frocks are far from being tub frocks, though they bear the name and are made of washable materials. In Paris, where cleanliness is done wonderfully well, quickly and inexpensively, the problem of laundering is not the difficult one it is here, though, for that matter, the Parisian "blanchisseuse de fin" can work miracles in a laundry way. Laundering is one of the things they do better in France.

But to go back to those imported frocks. They are quite likely to run to little puddles and corners and shams and frills. They may even have loops or the 1916 substitutes for loops, to hold them out at hip or lower.

The pale pink batiste illustrated here is of this type, charmingly dainty, and inexpensively. The problem of laundering is not the difficult one it is here, though, for that matter, the Parisian "blanchisseuse de fin" can work miracles in a laundry way. Laundering is one of the things they do better in France.

less immaculately fresh, and they will not stay fresh for any length of time. Small wonder that women clutch at the less exacting sports clothes that will stand the test of actual wear without looking crumpled and forlorn, even if some of them will not stand actual sport.

Report has it that there will be a tremendous amount of white worn this summer, provided the weather is less arid than it was much of last summer. If this is true, the fashion makers will have made a virtue of necessity and white will be modish because fine colored stuffs are scarcer than

Report Has It That White Will Be the Popular Wear if the Weather Man Permits

usual. Whatever the cause, the effect would be welcome for nothing is more generally becoming and attractive in hot weather than sheer white.

The simple frocks of white Georgette and white chiffon that have been popular during the past year have, to a certain extent, encroached upon the province of the sheer white lingerie frock, but there are many of the latter in the exclusive shops—frocks of white organdie, batiste, lawn, dotted Swiss, etc. None of them are elaborate as lingerie frocks were elaborate a few years ago; but, though not heavily hand embroidered and inset with snowy lace, they sometimes show a wealth of patient hand stitching in their self-trimming. Add even a little real Valenciennes to this handwork and you have a model whose price is likely to shock the casual inquirer.

Less costly and also less chic, but very lovely are some of the models for which the fine embroidered flouncings have been used. The season's modes offer opportunity for these materials in point of line and fineness and many designers have recognized this fact; but here again one comes up against the matter of supply. Beautiful flouncings are scarcer than usual and consequently more expensive.

The fad for dotted Swiss which last summer launched seems to have passed; but one finds occasional models in this material that are quaintly lovely, especially those built up of the Swiss, very finely and closely dotted and trimmed in fine corded shirtings and frills edged narrowly with lines. One good model combined this Swiss with heavy linen, and a flaring, half length coat of the linen, widely fruited

gandy is trimmed in innumerable rows of the narrow black velvet ribbon. A butter color batiste has wristbands and a wide band of natter blue velvet ribbon and a necklet of the narrow velvet is arranged to run round the bare front of the wearer's throat, passing through eyelets in a high rolling collar that covers the back of the neck and tie at the middle back in short loops and long ends.

This bow of narrow ribbon at the back of the neck is a detail often seen.

The very short puffed sleeve is used upon some of the sheer white French frocks or sprigged frocks trimmed in white organdy whose neck line is in keeping with the period of this sleeve. There are many elbow sleeves too, but the long, rather full sleeve caught into some sort of cuff or wristband is still a favorite.

Cape collars, fichus and roll collars are all popular and the neck line may be the familiar point, the shallow round, the straight line from shoulder to shoulder or the rather shallow square front with roll collar in the back. This last is particularly liked and very generally becoming.

The making of a modish skirt that will launder decently is a difficult matter in this day of fineness and flare and many of the ready made frocks, extremely good looking when new, lose much of their skirt shapeliness with tubbing. Some designers solve the problem when using fine sheer material by simply putting straight widths into the waist band and making no attempt to secure flare toward the skirt bottom. Others go back to the tunic idea and use a deeply



Two handkerchief linen frocks.

flounced overskirt full and flaring over a narrower underskirt that shows but slightly.

Flounces cut to flare but set upon a comparatively straight foundation are easily handled and petticoat effects, full on the hips and opening or appearing to open over a front panel are much liked by the French designers.

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PLAYGROUNDS AND VACATION SCHOOLS REAL SUMMER NEEDS OF CHILDREN

THIS scene is typical of almost any morning in the Children's Court. Before Justice Hoyt stands a boy fingering his ragged cap and struggling to steady his quivering under lip.

"How do you come to take the chocolate bars from the cigar stand, Jimmie?" is the dreaded question of the court.

"I wuz sittin' on the curbstone thinkin' what to do," replies James, becoming momentarily unnerved. "When a boy come along and ask me how the man at the corner had a lot of candy we could get if we tried."

"What else did you take?"

"Besides the chocolate bars?" reluctantly.

"Yes."

"Some packages of peppermint lozenges and the cigar lighter?"

"What were you going to do with the cigar lighter?"

"We wuz goin' to play subway buildin' an' pretend to melt bars an' things wid it, the way de men do. Oh, I did de-est! mea-a-a-a-n no harm, yer Honor, honest!" Whereat James breaks down completely, burying his face in his arms on the desk before him, a piece of furniture that has witnessed many a childish tear and heartbreak.

"Jimmie didn't mean no harm." He was just sitting on the curbstone thinking up something to do when, as usual, Sam found some evil for his little hands to accomplish.

"The question presented by his case and others like it is what is to become of a great many children this summer. If the present plans of the Board of Education are carried out and only a few extension schools open their doors. How many children, because of nothing constructive for active bodies and alert imaginations to expend their surplus energies upon, will start on the way to the Children's Court and the Department of Correction?"

"The most tragic element of the daily street accident problem," said Police Commissioner Arthur Woods when questioned on the subject of the problem of children in summer, "is the number of children who are the victims."

"During the year past 230 children were killed and 7,336 injured. This means that every sixty-nine minutes a New York child is hurt in the streets. Out of every 100 persons killed last year forty-four were children under 16 years of age and out of every 100 injured thirty-two were children."

"A large number of the children injured are knocked down while playing in the streets. But children must play,

and those who live in New York, as things are now, must play mostly in the streets. The department is doing all that it can, through lectures by police sergeants in the schools and interviews with parents in their homes, to educate parents and children to guard against street accidents.

"In this we have the best kind of cooperation from the Board of Education. During the summer of last year and the year before we set aside twenty-five or thirty blocks from which vehicular traffic was excluded to be used by children for play. Each of these blocks was conducted in cooperation with some civic organization, which furnished a play leader. These blocks, in a way, supplemented the regular park system of the city, but altogether they are not much more than a drop in the bucket.

"There are not enough park or playground streets to accommodate the children that have to be in the streets in the summer, and children will not go far from home to play. I find that the next move must be made in the direction of making other spaces available for play purposes, and the places that now seem most promising are the roofs of houses and the backyard spaces between rows of houses.

"The cost of the first might be prohibitive. The latter is perhaps the more promising because of the great waste of backyard space. A recent investigation in the most congested parts of the city, made by the police, showed an aggregate of more than ninety acres of space available for playgrounds, which is now cut up into scattered, irregular backyards and is practically useless.

"If these backyard fences could be razed and the space they now ruin could be thrown into one large area for the children of the adjoining houses to play in it would not only afford adequate space for playing, but would give it in a location where there is no danger of accidents and where the children would be free from the unwelcome influence of the street."

Interesting in connection with this subject is the effort of an organization of national scope, the special interest of which is the safeguarding of the youngsters of the streets during the vacation period. This is the National Daily Vacation Bible School Association, with headquarters at 99 Bible House, New York. What is considered an unusual feature of the organization's life is the personal interest taken in its work by all its members. Among them are Russell Colgate, president; Finley J. Shepard, Jr., vice-president; Walter C. Wyckoff, Jr., secretary; and Alfred P. W. Seaman, Montague

Flagg, Charles C. Goodrich, John P. Munn, George W. Schurman, Robert E. Speer, George Gordon Battle, Phineas W. Williamson, John S. Wurts, William Gilman, Low, Jr., George W. Palmer and Arthur H. Watson.

What the association has been doing ever since 1901 is the bringing together of idle children, idle church property and idle college students for instructors during the summer months. Branches now exist in ninety cities and towns of the United States and Canada.

"Giving the children some place to play besides the streets and doorsteps is the obvious advantage of summer

self and the public. Thus a bomb-maker and a bank breaker both know how to use their hands effectively.

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Archibald Ewing Stevenson.

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"It is a very fine thing to give children a recreational time by showing them how to use their hands effectively in industrial ways. It is a more complete thing to give them, at the same time, the tenets of honor, justice and responsibility of right living. For a man who has learned to use his hands skillfully may do so to the disadvantage of himself and the public quite as readily as to the advantage of him-

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SOME HINTS ABOUT CLOTHES

IN PLACE OF THE MUFF.

ONE WOMAN'S WAY.

WHAT shall a woman do with her hands, now that she has no further use for a muff? Shall she carry a handbag, or shall she run the risk of feeling awkward and nervous through not knowing just what to do with them? Many women who are not ordinarily affected by trifles are sometimes irritated by this little problem.

One young woman solves it by becoming a student with the opening of the spring season. She is seen for the first few weeks of mild weather carrying a book, magazine or newspaper, which is not heavy, but finds a use for the empty hands. At first a book is used. Then she changes to a lighter book than to a magazine, and lastly to the newspaper. In the meantime she has been learning to carry a handbag in the hand, and not slipped over the arm, as is generally done by those who have carried a muff.

Another woman carries a bag containing embroidery, while a third is never seen without an embroidery bag or basket. These articles are not heavy, nor cumbersome, but are useful for the purpose to which they are put. It is always at this time that women feel shyly, even though they may have on practically new clothes, and all long for the season's change of dress. The bright new bags, or books, serve to modify this dissatisfaction, and women who carry such things go along in a buoyant manner, apparently free from care. There are many new artistic handbags which can be made inexpensively and changed to correspond with the costume, and which could be used in this way.

I HAVE a friend who has about one-fourth the allowance that I have for clothes, and yet she is one of the best dressed girls I know. I learned the secret last year when I spent a week end at her home.

We went up to her room to take off our things. She slipped off her coat and skirt, brushed them and hung them on a combination hanger and put them away in the closet in a huge paper bag. Then she shook out her fur, brushed her hat and put both into boxes on the shelf. When she opened her closet door I saw her clothes hanging in a neat row, each hanger in its own brown paper cover. She said paper was much better for these bags than muslin, because the dust couldn't possibly get through it.

She next took off her shoes, took a brush from a shoe bag hanging on the closet door, brushed the dust from them, fitted them over the shoe trees that were waiting for them in their pockets and put them in their places, putting on a pair of house slippers. She then got into a simple little house frock, and as she stopped at the mirror to brush her hair she folded her vest and gloves, and opening the top drawer, which was divided into compartments by strips of thin board, put them in their places.

It only took a very few minutes to do all this, and it meant that when we left the house the next morning she would look as if she had just stepped out of one of her own handboxes.

I have profited by this lesson and have found that my things last twice as long, and I feel sure that I am always well groomed. It certainly is worth the little trouble it takes.

"Playing house" on a tenement doorstep.

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